

## **ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE (ABTEL)**

### **Minutes**

Meeting Date and Location:	April 23, 2001 James Monroe Building, Conference Room B Richmond, Virginia	
ABTEL Members Present:	Sally Boese Sharon Condrey Ronald Diss Ken Fleming Holly Hawthorne Nancy Miller Susan Walton	Mychele Brickner Judy Davis-Dorsey Brenda Duda Jill Fox Gertrude Jones Donna Smith
ABTEL Members Absent:	Mary Bicouvaris Wayne Harris Kimberly Loy	Mark Glaser Jane Massey-Wilson Mary McCauley
Board of Education Liaison Present:	Susan T. Noble	
Ex-Officio Members Present:	Carole Ballard and Cora Salzberg	
Department of Education Staff:	Thomas Elliott Byrd Latham Patty Pitts Alice Bryant	JoAnne Y. Carver Winston Odom Jo Lynne DeMary
Guests:	Cindy Cave David Crossley	Linda Poorbaugh Betty Lambdin

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### **Full Board Meeting**

Brenda Duda, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented.

## **Approval of Minutes**

**Susan Walton made a motion to approve the minutes, as corrected, of March 19, 2001, and Ron Diss seconded. Minutes should be corrected to show that Holly Hawthorne did not attend the March 19, 2001, meeting.**

## **Agenda Item A: House Joint Resolution No. 794**

Thomas Elliott introduced Linda Poorbaugh of Elementary Education and Cindy Cave of Policy and Public Affairs. Cindy Cave introduced David Crossley of Policy and Public Affairs. Cindy Cave made a presentation on House Joint Resolution 794.

House Joint Resolution No. 794 directs the Department of Education (DOE), in cooperation with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), to study the proficiency of Virginia teachers in teaching systematic explicit phonics and the availability in local school divisions of decodable textbooks and other suitable materials for systematic phonics instruction. Dr. Cave said details about when schools will be surveyed has not been outlined, but will be developed by a Council and Department of Education workplan.

## **Agenda Item B: Final Review of a Report on the Reading Assessments for Initial Licensure--Elementary Education, Special Education, ESL, and Middle Education Teachers**

Sharon Condrey and JoAnne Carver presented agenda item B. There was a discussion around a definition of systematic explicit phonics.

Brenda Duda suggested JoAnne Carver, Mychele Brickner, and Judy Davis-Dorsey meet with SCHEV and DOE as definitions are established regarding phonics. Thomas Elliott shared that the licensure competencies authorized in the regulations will be the source for establishing a definition for phonics.

The following ABTEL members volunteered to work with the reading committee: Sharon Condrey, Jill Fox, Mychele Brickner, and Judy Davis-Dorsey.

**Mychele Brickner made a motion to accept the report on the reading assessments. Donna Smith seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.**

Dr. Carver presented an overview of a report completed by Dr. Louisa C. Moats, a reading expert. Dr. Moats was recommended by the Department staff to complete site visits to review Reading Across the Curriculum: Elementary (RAC-E), Reading Across the Curriculum: Secondary (RAC-S), and Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) for teachers to determine test alignment with Virginia's 1998 reading competencies for elementary education, special education, ESL, and middle education teachers. Dr. Moats conducted reviews at Educational Testing Service (ETS) on April 9 and National Evaluation Systems (NES) on April 10. Dr. Carver distributed copies of the report from Dr. Moats to ABTEL members.

Three major findings from the ETS assessment, "Reading Across the Curriculum: Elementary" (RAC-E) and "Reading Across the Curriculum: Secondary" (RAC-S) included the following:

1. Little alignment with competencies outlined in Virginia's licensure regulations;
2. Many concepts/references related to "unproven" or "discredited" methodologies; and
3. Little testing of core teacher understandings and competencies (those most likely to support effective instruction of reading).

Four major findings from the review of NES' assessment "Reading Instruction Competence Assessment" (RICA) included the following:

1. Content specifications directly reflect terms and provisions of California Reading Initiative;
2. Content specifications well-aligned with research consensus on reading instruction;
3. Weaknesses deal with emphasis, depth, and case study representations of good and poor readers; and
4. Relevant for special education teachers charged with teaching reading.

**Agenda Item C: Final Review of an Analysis of Data on Praxis I Score in Virginia: July 1, 1996-July 1, 2000**

Susan Walton presented the final report reviewing the Advisory Board's analysis of data on Praxis I Scores in Virginia. She highlighted the following conclusions from the study:

- In Virginia and the nation, test takers perform better on the computer-based test of Praxis I than the paper and pencil Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST).
- Scores on Praxis I from Virginia test takers are better than national scores.
- Based on reported Virginia data, females perform somewhat better on writing test than males. Males performed better on the mathematics test than females on both the mathematics PPST and CBT.
- The teaching profession will continue to be dominated by females as the number of Praxis test takers far exceeds the number of male test takers.
- The gender and ethnic composition of the teaching force does not come close to matching that of the K-12 student population.

**Jill Fox made a motion to approve the final review of the study on Praxis I scores in Virginia from July 1, 1996, to July 1, 2000, using data provided by Educational**

Testing Service (ETS) as presented by the Advisory Board Committee. Gertrude Jones seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Agenda Item D: Final Review of the Validation and Standard-Setting Studies of the Elementary Education: Content Knowledge Test and Health and Physical Education Content Knowledge Test**

Patty Pitts recapped information received by the Advisory Board on the new Praxis II tests for "Elementary Education: Content Knowledge Test" and "Health and Physical Education Content Knowledge Test" developed by the Educational Testing Service (ETS).

**Elementary Education**

Jill Fox made a motion that a cut score of 143 be recommended to the Board of Education for the "Elementary Education: Content Knowledge Test," with the stipulation that the scores be reexamined in three to five years. Ron Diss seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of: Yes-9 and No-3. (The chair did not vote.)

**Health and Physical Education**

After discussion, Mychele Brickner made a motion that a cut score of 151 be recommended to the Board of Education with the stipulation that the scores be reexamined in three to five years. Holly Hawthorne seconded. The motion was approved by a vote of: Yes-12 to No-0. (The chair did not vote.)

**Agenda Item E: Report on the Joint State/NCATE Continuing Accreditation Reviews for Fall 2000**

Byrd Latham presented the report on the Joint State/NCATE Continuing Accreditation Reviews for the Fall of 2000.

Since 1993, Virginia has been a partnership state with the National Association for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). During the fall of 2000, continuing accreditation reviews were conducted at the following colleges and universities in Virginia:

Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg	October 28-November 1, 2000
Marymount University, Arlington	November 4-November 8, 2000
University of Virginia, Charlottesville	November 11-November 15, 2000

The advisory board received the continuing accreditation reports and approved by consensus their inclusion in ABTEL's annual report.

#### **Agenda Item F: Report on Summer 2001 Plans to Conduct a Career Switcher Pilot Program**

Winston Odom presented the report on summer 2001 plans to conduct a Career Switcher Pilot Program. Competitive state grant proposals were received from Old Dominion University, University of Virginia, and Western Virginia Public Education Consortium to conduct the Career Switcher Programs for 2001-02. The program will be offered in four sections of the state: Northern Virginia, Tidewater, the Richmond metropolitan area, and Southwest Virginia.

Over 1,500 inquiries were received about the pilot program. By the deadline of March 2, 2001, 583 applications were received for the 100 openings for the program. Dr. Odom also reported that a three-year longitudinal study of career switcher program completers will be conducted.

**Jill Fox made a motion to receive the report on summer 2001 plans to conduct a Career Switcher Pilot Program. Donna Smith seconded the motion that was approved unanimously.**

#### **Agenda Item G: Final Review of the Blueprint for ABTEL's Annual Report to the Board of Education**

The advisory board members discussed the Blueprint for ABTEL's Annual Report to the Board of Education in May. Members decided the annual report will be composed of the following information:

- (1) composition of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure;
- (2) appointments for 2001;
- (3) membership of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure;
- (4) the Executive Committee;
- (5) Virginia Board of Education Liaison to ABTEL;
- (6) establish a group of pilot Department of Education Liaison and Staff Members;
- (7) purpose of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure;
- (8) overview of ABTEL Initiatives for the 2000-01 Year;
- (9) recommendations; and
- (10) special acknowledgements.

In addition, ABTEL indicated the following initiatives should be included in the report:

1. validation and standard setting studies of the "Elementary Education: Content Knowledge Test" and the "Health and Physical Education Content Knowledge Test";
2. panel to review reading assessments for initial licensure for elementary education, special education, English as a Second Language, and middle education teachers;
3. panel to review Praxis II vocational content knowledge tests;
4. analysis of Praxis I scores in Virginia July 1, 1996 - July 1, 2000; and
5. campus visits and presentations at Virginia Commonwealth University and Longwood College.

**Judy Davis-Dorsey made a motion to receive and approve the blueprint for the development of its annual report to the Board of Education. Holly Hawthorne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Agenda Item H: Liaison Reports**

##### Virginia Community College System (VCCS)

Carole Ballard provided a brief overview of the major initiatives of interest from the Virginia Community College System. The VCCS sponsored A Colloquium on the Role of Community Colleges in Teacher Education. Dr. Thomas Elliott was the luncheon speaker. The colloquium was well received by participating educators.

VCCS are continuing their work to assist students who plan to teach by helping them pass the Praxis I requirements. They are developing a Web site for career opportunities that will be linked to four-year colleges. The Educational Testing Service (ETS) has indicated they will provide Virginia Community Colleges with Praxis I score data for students. Advisory board members indicated they would be interested in receiving score reports on the 23 community colleges and Richard Bland College along with the results on the 37 four-year institutions with teacher preparation programs.

##### State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)

Cora Salzberg, State Council of Higher Education, did not have a report.

##### Virginia Department of Education (DOE)

Thomas Elliott reminded members that Superintendent's Memorandums and other helpful information are available on the Department of Education Web site ([www.pen.k12.va.us](http://www.pen.k12.va.us)).

Responses to Superintendent's Memo No. 42, regarding Praxis I score alternatives have been received from school superintendents. The options were: establish a composite score-one passing score based on the sum of all three tests-with a minimum

score for each test or establish a composite score-one passing score based on the sum of all three tests-without a minimum score for each test. It appears that the superintendents favored the second option.

Virginia received all Title II institutional reports prior to April 9, 2001. The reports include Praxis I scores for program completers at Virginia institutions of higher education for the 1999-2000 year. A briefing report is available on the Title II results for Virginia.

The final meeting of the Uniform Performance Standards Personnel Review Committee was held on April 18. A teleconference will be broadcast to discuss the sample prototypes developed for teachers, administrators, and superintendents. Dr. William Boshier, Executive Director of the Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute at Virginia Commonwealth University, and staff lead this initiative.

#### **Item I: One-day Drive-In Summer Workshop**

Tentatively, a one-day drive-in summer workshop is scheduled for Thursday, August 9, 2001, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., to plan ABTEL initiatives for 2001-02. The Advisory Board agreed to support the drive-in meeting in August.

#### **Item J: Approval of Meeting Dates**

The following meeting dates were approved for 2001-02:

September 17, 2001	Richmond, Virginia
November 19, 2001	Richmond, Virginia
January 28, 2002	Richmond, Virginia
March 18, 2002	Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia (Tentative)
April 15, 2002	Richmond, Virginia

#### **Item K: 2001-02 Appointments to ABTEL**

Thomas Elliott provided information on appointments for 2001-02. He said next year ABTEL will have one vacancy representing a public university from a teacher preparation program. Two members are eligible for a second three-year appointment. Sally Boese, representing non-public schools, and Wayne Harris, representing the at-large position, have completed one term and are eligible to seek a second term.

#### **Superintendent of Public Instruction**

Dr. Jo Lynne DeMary, superintendent of public instruction, talked briefly about the critical teacher shortage areas, and she referred to in the retirement bill approved by the 2001

session of the General Assembly. Dr. DeMary indicated that the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) was the lead agency on the retirement bill. The superintendent is charged with advising VRS on such matters as content and geographic critical shortage areas, shortages in the availability of school administrators, and guidance on expired licenses of teachers wishing to reenter teaching after retirement. Information regarding implementing the retirement bill will be disseminated during the summer.

### **Other Business**

Brenda Duda shared that member, Mary Bicouvaris, is very ill and was recently hospitalized. A basket was sent to her from the ABTEL members.

### **Adjournment**

Brenda Duda adjourned the meeting.